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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Jim Harkey) Art Unit: 3643
Serial No. 10/797,967) Examiner: Susan C. Alimenti
Filed: March 11, 2004) Cust. No. 22931
For: FISHING ROD HOLDING) Attorney
APARATUS AND METHOD) Ref. No.: P114718

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Certificate of Mailing (37 CFR 1.8a)

I hereby certify that this document (along with any document referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231, on date shown below.

July 1, 2005
Date

Carole Petralli

RESPONSE

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed this last June 21, 2005. A response is due this July 21, 2005. It is believed that no fee is due at this time to maintain the application in full force and effect. However, if any such fee is due, please charge this to Deposit Account No. 08-3260.

REMARKS

In the last office action, it was required that an election be made between claims 1-19 which relate to gripping apparatus and claim 20 which relates to a method of assisting the fisherman in gripping the rod. The Applicant provisionally elects claims 1-19 drawn to the gripping apparatus. The restriction requirement is hereby traversed. It is believed that the subject matter of the apparatus and the method are sufficiently close that a search of these would overlap substantially and prosecution of the application overall in terms of effort of the patent examiner and also the

Applicant's attorney would be reduced by handling these together in this application.

If there is any matter which could be expedited by consultation with the Applicant's attorney, such would be welcome. The Applicant's undersigned attorney can normally be reached at the telephone number set forth below.

Signed at Bellingham, County of Whatcom, State of Washington this July 1, 2005.

Respectfully submitted,
JIM HARKEY,

By Robert M. Hughes

Robert Hughes, Reg. No. 19,304
Hughes Law Firm, PLLC
Pacific Meridian Plaza
4164 Meridian Street, Suite 302
Bellingham, WA 98226
(360) 647-1296
Fax (360) 671-2489